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Registrar was threatening the Banks that in case they do not appoint departmental men as directed the Reserve Bank of India would be induced to stop credit facilities to such Banks which refuse to act up to his advice; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Eluru (West Godavari district) has been insisting on the Board of Management of the West Godavari District Co-operative Central Bank, taking in Departmental men as Manager and Secretary threatening the Board that in case they do not take in departmental men as directed the Board will be superseded under the Co-operative Societies Act?

THE HON. SRI D. SANJIVAYYA:—" (a) No, Sir.

" (b) No, Sir."

Construction of a bridge across the River Pennar at Nellore.

* 646 Q.—SRI S. VEMIAH: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the estimated cost of expenditure to construct a bridge across the River Pennar at Nellore; and

(b) what is the revised estimate if any?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—" (a) Rs. 23 lakhs.

" (b) A revised estimate is being finalised, and the final figure arrived at has to be approved by the Central Government. It is not therefore possible to indicate the amount now."

Special Officers for the District Boards.

* 647 Q.—SRI K. P. GOPALAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have put any proposal before the District Boards for the appointment of Special Officers to take over the administration of District Boards in the State pending elections; and

(b) whether the Government received any unanimous resolution of the Malabar District Board passed recently regarding the appointment of Special Officers and the question of election?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI:—" (a) No. There is, however, a proposal to appoint Special Officers to District Boards from the dates on which the term of office of the existing members expires. The District Boards were not consulted on this proposal.

" (b) Yes."